

REMARKS

Claims 34, 36-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 51, 52, 55-64 and 70-72 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 34, 51 and 56 are amended. Claim 34 is amended based on previously-presented claim 69. Support for added claim 72 may be found on page 13, lines 12-16, for example. Claims 50, 53, 54 and 67-69 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. A Request for Continued Examination is attached. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

On page 2, the Office Action indicates that claims 67 and 68 are withdrawn as allegedly being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 67 and 68 are canceled.

The Office Action rejects claim 49 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

On page 2, the Office Action asserts that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the claim language "the time" in lines 8 and 9 of claim 49. Claim 49 was previously amended to recite "a time" in line 8 and "the time" in line 9 (see the March 5, 2009 Amendment).

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 49 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 34, 36-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 52-56, 61 and 62 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,949,352 to Ferrari in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0071478 to Cornwall; rejects claims 50, 51, 57 and 69-71 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ferrari in view of Cornwall, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,657,552 to Belski; rejects claims 58 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ferrari in view of Cornwall, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,405,136 to Li; and rejects claims 60, 63 and 64 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ferrari in view of Cornwall, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0175805 to Armstrong.

Independent claim 34 is amended based on claim 69 to recite, among other features, both that the information relating to the measurement event transmitted by the first station includes data relating to a time of the measurement event (Feature 1), and that the time delay is sufficiently long to allow the first station to retransmit the signal within the time delay (Feature 2). Ferrari would not have suggested those features, as explained below.

First, Ferrari does not disclose including information relating to the time of the measurement in the transmitted information. Rather, the system in Ferrari determines the time of the event based on the time of receiving the information from the probe (Fig. 4). The time of receiving the information, or the time of the event, is not itself included in the transmitted information. Including information about the time of the event in the transmitted information would be redundant to Ferrari's method of determining the time based on the time of receiving the information, as discussed above. Ferrari even discloses that any specific data on the delay is not to be added to the information transmitted by the probe (col. 2, lines 52-54). Accordingly, Ferrari does not disclose Feature 1.

Second, Ferrari does not disclose that the time delay is sufficiently long to allow the first station to retransmit the signal within the time delay. As conceded on page 10 of the Office Action, Ferrari and Cornwall do not disclose that the signal is retransmitted. In fact, signal retransmission is incompatible with the system in Ferrari, which determines the event timing based on the time of receiving the message. If the first (only) message for a measurement event is not received, then the timing information provided by receiving that message is simply lost. Thus, Ferrari also does not disclose Feature 2.

Cornwall, Li, Armstrong and Belski are not applied in any manner that would overcome the above-identified shortfalls in the application of Ferrari and Cornwall to the subject matter recited in independent claim 34.

In view of the above, the combinations of applied references would not have suggested the combination of features recited in independent claim 34. Thus, the combinations of applied references would not have suggested the combinations of features recited in dependent claims 36-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 51, 52, 55-64, 70 and 71 for at least the respective dependence of these claims on claim 34 as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

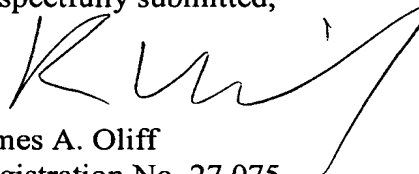
Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the prior art rejections of claims 34, 36-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 51, 52, 56-64, 70 and 71 are respectfully requested.

Added claim 72 depends from independent claim 34. Thus, the combinations of applied references would not have suggested the combinations of features recited in claim 72 for at least the dependence of that claim on an allowable base claim, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that claim 72 recites.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 34, 36-42, 44, 45, 47-49, 51, 52, 55-64 and 70-72 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Request for Continued Examination
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

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